

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-106 (Canceled)

107. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting B lymphocyte proliferation in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a fusion protein that consists of a first portion and a second portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are joined by a peptide bond, wherein the first portion of the fusion protein consists of the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 25 to 104 of SEQ ID NO:6 wherein the second portion of the fusion protein is an immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region and wherein the fusion protein binds ztnf4.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107, wherein the immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region is a human immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 108, wherein the human immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region is a human immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region of IgG1.

110. (Previously presented) The method of claim 107, wherein the composition comprises multimeric proteins comprising one or more polypeptide fusions.

111. (Previously presented) The method of claim 110, wherein the composition comprises dimeric proteins comprising one or more polypeptide fusions.

Claims 112-116 Withdrawn

117. (Canceled)

118. (Canceled)

119. (Canceled)

120. (Canceled)

121. (Canceled)

122. (Currently amended) The method of claim 107 ~~or 117~~, wherein said B lymphocyte proliferation is associated with an autoimmune disease.

123. (Previously presented) The method of claim 122, wherein said autoimmune disease is systemic lupus erythematosus, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis or rheumatoid arthritis.

124. (Currently amended) The method of claim 107 ~~or 117~~, wherein said B lymphocyte proliferation is associated with bronchitis, emphysema or end stage renal failure.

125. (Currently amended) The method of claim 107 ~~or 117~~, wherein said B lymphocyte proliferation is associated with renal disease.

126. (Previously presented) The method of claim 125, wherein said renal disease is glomerulonephritis, vasculitis, nephritis or pyelonephritis.

127. (Currently amended) The method of claim 107 ~~or 117~~, wherein said B lymphocyte proliferation is associated with renal neoplasms, multiple myelomas, lymphomas, light chain neuropathy or amyloidosis.

128. (Currently amended) The method of claim 107 ~~or 117~~, wherein said inhibiting B lymphocyte proliferation is associated with regulation of immune response.

129. (Currently amended) The method of claim 107 ~~or 117~~, wherein said inhibiting B lymphocyte proliferation is associated with immunosuppression.

130. (Previously presented) The method of claim 129, wherein said immunosuppression is associated with graft rejection, graft versus host disease, autoimmune disease or inflammation.

131. (Previously presented) The method of claim 130, wherein said autoimmune disease is insulin dependent diabetes mellitus or Crohn's Disease.

132. (Previously presented) The method of claim 130, wherein said inflammation is associated with joint pain, swelling, anemia or septic shock.